

State Street/University Parkway Grade Separation Project, San Bernardino

Construction is expected to start in the spring of 2007 on the long-awaited bridge over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks at State Street/University Parkway in San Bernardino. San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) has been the lead agency for the design and property acquisition for this project, with participation from both the City and County of San Bernardino. This agency partnership will continue as the project enters the construction phase.

Project Need

Lengthy waits at the intersection of State Street/University Parkway, Cajon Boulevard and the BNSF railroad tracks are a way of life for area drivers. As freight continues to enter the region from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and to travel along these rail lines, motorists can expect even longer delays at this rail crossing and at other rail crossings along the Alameda Corridor East. The volume of cargo entering these ports is forecasted to triple by 2025, creating even more frustration for drivers forced to wait for the trains to pass.

Even more serious than the delays faced by motorists is the safety hazard of having streets and railroad tracks on the same grade. Impatient drivers may try to beat the train by racing across the tracks, resulting in serious or fatal accidents.

In addition, air quality suffers from cars and trucks that idle at these railroad crossings. These emissions add to the air pollution in the San Bernardino Valley.

Project Purpose

Construction of a bridge over the BNSF railroad tracks that cross State Street/University Parkway will reduce traffic congestion due to trains that block the street at the rail crossing. The bridge also will enhance safety and improve air quality.

Project Summary

The new bridge — also referred to as an overcrossing — will provide two travel lanes, a bicycle lane and a sidewalk in each direction, plus a center turn lane. State Street/University Parkway will be realigned to the east of its current location at the rail crossing. The bridge will require the street to be raised north of the railroad tracks and south of Cajon Boulevard.

Local street improvements also are planned, including:

- The realignment of Nolan Street and Short Street where they meet State Street. Traffic signals will be added at the intersection of State/Short, Cajon/Short and University Parkway/Interchange Drive.
- The realignment of the southeast section of Nolan Street

What to Expect

During construction, residents and business operators should expect some noise, dust and temporary street closures. State Street will remain open during most of the construction period; State Street south of Cajon will remain open for several hundred feet to provide business access. Kern Street will remain open.

Fast Facts...

- Estimated construction dates: Spring 2007-Spring 2009
- Approximate total project cost: \$28 million; funding provided by the state's Traffic Congestion Relief Program and a contribution from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
- Bridge height: 35 feet
- Total concrete required for construction: 3,700 tons
- Total reinforcing steel required for construction: 400 tons
- For questions or more info: Call (909) 875-6029 ext.. 216 Visit www.sanbag.ca.gov (click on Active Projects)

